

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electroconductive endless-belt of tandem system, for transfer and/or conveyance which is circulatorily driven by a drive unit, and which conveys a recording medium retained on the belt by electrostatic attraction to four kinds of image formation members, and sequentially transfers each toner image onto the recording medium, wherein the endless belt comprises:

as a base material, at least one member selected from the group consisting of acrylonitrile-styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature lower than 25°C, a polymer alloy of a thermoplastic resin with acrylonitrile-styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature lower than 25°C, and a polymer blend of a thermoplastic resin with acrylonitrile-styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature lower than 25°C;

wherein said acrylonitrile styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature Tg lower than 25°C is acrylonitrile acryl rubber styrene resin [ASA (ASS) resin], acrylonitrile-chlorinated polyethylene-styrene resin (ACS resin), acrylonitrile butadiene styrene resin (ABS resin), acrylonitrile ethylene propylene styrene resin (AES resin), or acrylonitrile silicone styrene resin (ASS resin).

2. (Currently Amended) An electroconductive endless-belt which is used for an intermediate transfer member, is located between an image formation body and a recording medium, and is circulatorily driven with a drive unit, thereby once transferring and retaining, on the surface of itself, a toner image formed on the surface of the image formation body, and

then transferring the image thereon onto the recording medium, wherein the endless-belt comprises:

as a base material, at least one member selected from the group consisting of acrylonitrile-styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature lower than 25°C, a polymer alloy of a thermoplastic resin with acrylonitrile-styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature lower than 25°C, and a polymer blend of a thermoplastic resin with acrylonitrile-styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature lower than 25°C;

wherein said acrylonitrile styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature T_g lower than 25°C is acrylonitril acryl rubber styrene resin [ASA (ASS) resin], acrylonitril-chlorinated polyethylene-styrene resin (ACS resin), acrylonitrile butadiene styrene resin (ABS resin), acrylonitrile ethylene propylene styrene resin (AES resin), or acrylonitrile silicone styrene resin (ASS resin).

3. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein said flexible component is acrylic rubber, chlorinated polyethylene, polybutadiene rubber, ethylene propylene rubber or silicone rubber.

4. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 3, wherein said flexible component is polybutadiene rubber.

5. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein said thermoplastic resin is a thermoplastic elastomer.

6. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein said thermoplastic is polybutylene terephthalate.

7. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein said thermoplastic is polycarbonate.

8. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein said thermoplastic is polyamide.

9. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 5, wherein said thermoplastic is thermoplastic polyether.

10. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein an electroconductive material is incorporated as a functional component.

11. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 10, wherein said electroconductive material is carbon black in an amount of 0.1 to 100 parts by mass based on 100 parts by mass of the resin component.

12. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein the volume resistance of the belt is 10^6 to $10^{13} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$.

13. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein an engaging member engaging with a drive unit is provided on the contacting side of the belt with said drive unit.

14. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 13, wherein the engaging member is a continuous protruded convexity along the rotating direction.

15. (Original) An image formation apparatus equipped with an electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 1 or 2.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim [[16]] 1 or 2, wherein said acrylonitrile styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition temperature T_g lower than 25°C is acrylonitrile butadiene styrene resin (ABS resin).

18. (Previously Presented) An electroconductive endless-belt, comprising:
as a base material, at least one member selected from the group consisting of
acrylonitrile-styrene resin containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component
glass transition temperature lower than 25°C ,
a polymer alloy of a having thermoplastic resin with acrylonitrile-styrene resin
containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition
temperature lower than 25°C , and
a polymer blend of a thermoplastic resin with acrylonitrile-styrene resin
containing 3 to 50 mass % of a flexible component having glass transition
temperature lower than 25°C .

19. (Previously Presented) An image formation apparatus equipped with an electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 18.

20. (Previously Presented) The electroconductive endless-belt according to the claim 18, which comprises one layer.